

Instruction

Independent Study

To meet the needs of extremely capable and highly motivated students, the Board of Education hereby establishes the following policy with respect to The Independent Study Programs at New Milford High School.

This policy is to provide equity as well as opportunities for all students who need to make up credits and to broaden opportunities for students to pursue study in courses not currently offered at New Milford High School. It is limited in scope to the following criteria and falls under the discretion of the High School Principal.

1. Independent Study proposals will be presented to the Principal or his/her designee prior to the school year or semester the independent study is to occur. Approval must be obtained from the Principal before the second week of the school year or semester. If a proposal is submitted subsequent to the second week of the semester, the Superintendent may approve the proposal, if the High School Principal can show cause as to why the time frame outlined above should be waived.
2. Independent Study ordinarily will be available only for approved Board of Education Courses, and for courses not listed in the Program of Studies with written prior approval from both the Department Chair, and Principal or Principal's designee. If a student submits a proposal which goes beyond the regular school curriculum, that student must have a record of outstanding responsibility and motivation in their academic pursuits.
3. The proposal must have a faculty sponsor certified in the area most closely associated with the Independent Study proposal. The staff member who guides and lends technical support does so voluntarily and not in lieu of any other assignment.
4. The Independent Study course is classified as an elective. It may not supplant any required high school class/course without first obtaining a waiver from the High School Principal.
5. Independent Study credits must be judged to require equivalent commitment of time and must be certified by the faculty sponsor.

Instruction

Independent Study

6. An assessment component of the Independent Study proposal must be clearly delineated. A portfolio, performance or exam are acceptable assessment vehicles. The sponsoring staff member will conduct an assessment or review any outside assessment agreed upon as a prior part of the Independent Study proposal. The sponsor must approve the level of work in the project in order for any credit to be awarded.

7. A maximum number of two (2) Independent Study credits may be earned by an individual unless, based upon the unique needs or circumstances of the student, the Superintendent of Schools has first granted approval to any plan that calls for an individual to be awarded more than two (2) independent credits in his/her high school career.

Policy adopted: June 10, 2003
Policy revised: June 14, 2011
Policy revised: May 21, 2019

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut